

DOCKET NO.: FCI-2642/C2285A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In Re Application of:

Richard A. Elco

Serial No.: 09/976,946

Filing Date: October 12, 2001

For: Waveguides And Backplane Systems

Confirmation No.: 2569

Group Art Unit: 2817

Examiner: Lee, Benny T.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EL928558575US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: February 11, 2003

EL928558575US

Box ☐ NON-FEE
☐ AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application is:

- ☐ A Preliminary Amendment.
- ☒ An Amendment Responsive to the Office Action Dated November 15, 2002.
- ☐ An Amendment Supplemental to the Paper filed
- ☐ Other:
- ☐ Applicant(s) has previously claimed small entity status under 37 CFR § 1.27.
- ☐ Applicant(s) by its/their undersigned attorney, claims small entity status under 37 CFR § 1.27 as:
 - ☐ an Independent Inventor
 - ☐ a Small Business Concern

- ☐ a Nonprofit Organization
- ☐ This application is no longer entitled to small entity status. It is requested that this be noted in the files of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- ☐ Loss of Entitlement Enclosed
- ☐ Substitute Pages of the Specification are enclosed.
- ☐ An Abstract is enclosed.
- ☐ Sheets of Proposed Corrected Drawings are enclosed.
- ☐ A Certified Copy of each of the following applications: is enclosed.
- ☐ An Associate Power of Attorney is enclosed.
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement.
 - ☐ Attached Form 1449.
 - ☐ A copy of each reference as listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ Appended Material as follows: .
- ☐ Other Material as follows: .

FEE CALCULATION

☐ No Additional Fee is Due.

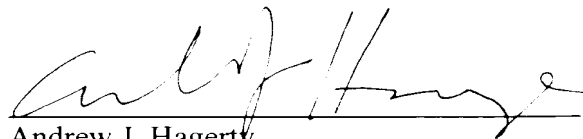
	REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST PAID FOR	EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY		NOT SMALL ENTITY	
				RATE	FEE	RATE	FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	20	20 (20 MINIMUM)	0	\$9 EACH	\$	\$18 EACH	\$0
INDEP. CLAIMS	4	3 (3 MINIMUM)	1	\$42 EACH	\$	\$84 EACH	\$84.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT				\$140	\$	\$280	\$00
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$55	\$	\$110	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$205	\$	\$410	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$465	\$	\$930	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FOUR MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$725	\$	\$1450	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIVE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME				\$985	\$	\$1970	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> LESS ANY EXTENSION FEE ALREADY PAID				minus	(\$)	minus	(\$0)
<input type="checkbox"/> TERMINAL DISCLAIMER				\$55	\$	\$110	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER FEE OR SURCHARGE AS FOLLOWS:							
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$		\$84.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of **\$84.00** is attached. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 23-3050.
- ☐ Petition is hereby made under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) (fees: 37 CFR § 1.17(a)(1)-(4) to extend the time for response to the Office Action of _____ to and through _____ comprising an extension of the shortened statutory period of _____ month(s).
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby requested to grant an extension of time for the appropriate length of time, should one be necessary, in connection with this filing or any future filing submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified application during the pendency of this application. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge any fees related to any such extension of time to Deposit Account 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3050. This sheet is provided in duplicate.
- ☐ The foregoing amount due for filing this paper.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required, including fees for the presentation of extra claims under 37 CFR § 1.16.

☒ Any additional patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 or 1.20(d).

SHOULD ANY DEFICIENCIES APPEAR with respect to this application, including deficiencies in payment of fees, missing parts of the application or otherwise, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is respectfully requested to promptly notify the undersigned.

Date: 2/11/03



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2/26/03

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.111

This is in response to the Official Action dated November 15, 2002, issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 2, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A backplane system, comprising:
 - a substrate comprising a multilayer board;
 - a waveguide connected to the substrate, the waveguide having a gap therein for preventing propagation of a lower order mode into a higher order mode;
 - at least one transmitter connected to the waveguide for sending an electrical signal along the waveguide; and
 - at least one receiver connected to the waveguide for accepting the electrical signal.

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION